

BENHAM'S REPORT.

Explains the Cause of the Rio Affairs.

Ship Flying the American Flag Fired On.

HE DID JUST RIGHT

Say Senators and People in Washington.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Jan. 31.—The following statement has been made by Admiral Benham, commander of the United States fleet in this harbor:

"The insurgent forces on Cobras island last Friday fired upon a ship flying the United States flag, I protested to Admiral Spalding da Gama against this action, and his response was that he had warned the commander of the ship when it was at the bar of Rio de Janeiro as to the whereabouts of the danger line. I ordered Admiral da Gama to cease the firing. Both the guns on board Cobras and the guns of the insurgent warship Trajano opened fire Saturday upon the bark Argito, sailing from New York. I warned Admiral da Gama at once that if the fire was repeated I would fire back. I also warned him that if he touched an American ship or American goods, I would consider him a pirate. I told him I would protect American property from the fire of his guns, and that I should retaliate upon him for any damage done, unless it was entirely apparent that the damage was due to chance shots."

Admiral Benham says he notified Admiral da Gama officially that being by the insurgents upon the wharves for the purpose merely of creating terror and to prolong a blockade, would not be permitted so far as Americans and American vessels were concerned. To this communication the insurgent admiral made no answer.

The captains of three American vessels, Admiral Benham continues, "intimated that they wanted to go to the wharves, and the American admiral notified Admiral da Gama at sunrise on Monday. Fearing trouble Admiral Benham ordered that the vessels of his fleet be cleared for action. The three ships referred to were the Amy, the Godiva, and the Valkyrie Rollins. The captain of two of the ships weaker and had failed to get into the harbor. The Amy was the only one that ventured in, and she was escorted by the United States cruiser Detroit. As a precaution against any possible aggressive action on the part of the insurgents, the cruisers New York, Charleston and Newark were assigned to watch the actions of da Gama's ship, Aquidabon, while the Detroit and San Francisco were signaled to take positions near the Trajano and the Garmarana.

These precautions certainly proved effective, and the insurgents knew the formidable array of American vessels, made but the feeble attempt to hinder the Amy's progress to the wharf. No guns were opened up on her by da Gama's vessels, and as a matter of course, the American vessels did not fire on the insurgent ships.

The insurgent protest consisted of this: As the Amy got abreast of the Garmarana a musket on the last named vessel aimed a bullet at her and fired. Two musket shots were fired at the Garmarana, and the Trajano from the Amy's deck. The Detroit, in return, this was all the firing done during the Amy's trip, and it was enough. All opposition ceased at once, and the use of heavy guns was not considered necessary at any time.

The reason the other two ships which had noticed Admiral Benham they wished to go to their wharves failed to do so, is that their commanders were persuaded from entering the harbor by a man of the name of Rollins, who is believed to be the agent of an English firm which has been furnishing the rebels money.

At a late hour da Gama conferred with his officers upon the advisability of surrendering to the Detroit in consequence of the musket shots fired. He was dissuaded from doing so, but it is thought possible he may yet determine to surrender to the American commander.

There is no doubt Admiral da Gama is in a bad way. A proposed compromise has been offered to both, and it seems only a matter of time when he will have to give up the struggle. The complications of the insurgent situation are increased by the absence of Admiral De Mello. The failure of the latter admiral to arrive here to the assistance of the insurgents there has given rise to the report that he is dead. The commanders of six warships here, including two American and four English and French, have sent messages to Admiral Benham, congratulating him upon his prompt action.

The Austrian commander cleared his ships and made ready to help the American admiral in case help was necessary.

OPINION OF SENATORS.

Upheld the Course of Admiral Benham and Disdied a Hettling-Spirit.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—Senator Sherman, the senior Republican member of the Senate committee on foreign relations, expressed great interest in the Brazilian news brought by the Press bulletins. Being requested to express an opinion as to what course was probable in view of the circumstances on the part of the American government, he said:

"As Admiral da Gama is at the head of a band of insurgents and represents no organized government, it will not be necessary to declare war at all, but he and his followers can be treated as pirates. Don't wait war," continued the senator, "but when we get into it I am for fighting it out."

Senator Quay explained: "A war on us and no money in the treasury?" and added: "We shall have to protect our interests in Brazilian waters at any rate."

"I hope," said Senator Calhoun, "that the American warship will knock them into the deep blue sea."

Clearance Shoe Sale, Payne's.

COUGHLIN BREAKS SILENCE.
He Speaks for the First Time in His Own Behalf.

CHICAGO, Jan. 31.—In the Coughlin case yesterday, during the testimony of James Hyland, Coughlin spoke in open court for the first time. Hyland had testified he was with Seaman O'Sullivan at the seaman's home at the time Dr. Cronin is alleged to have been murdered, and had gone with a cousin to Neumann's saloon for a drink. Neumann had previously testified that Coughlin was in his place, near the Carlson cottage, on the night of May 4, and defendant's counsel, Judge Wing, undertook to show Hyland might have been mistaken for Coughlin. A dramatic scene resulted.

"How tall are you, Coughlin?" asked the prisoner's attorney.

"Six feet and half an inch," responded Coughlin promptly.

"Now stand up by Hyland," the lawyer continued, and as the witness and prisoner stood side by side the resemblance was remarkable.

Coughlin had spoken the first word he had ever uttered in his own behalf in court, and as the two men stood together, a murmur ran through the court room and fury as well as spectators evidenced deep interest.

LOUISIANA LOTTERY.

It Is Now Located in Florida and Still Doing Business.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Jan. 31.—The Florida Citizen, the newly founded by L. S. Metcalf of New York city, publishes a page of matter pertaining to an exposure of the establishment in Florida of the Louisiana state lottery. It says:

"The Louisiana state lottery company, expelled from New Orleans December 31, last, has transferred its headquarters to Fort Tampa City, in this state. A gambling institution, which for twenty-five years has been drawing from the American people from \$6,000,000 to \$10,000,000, and retaining nearly 30 per cent of the money, is now in full operation in our state."

Mr. McKeigan, Populist, of Nebraska, and Mr. Simpson, Populist, of Kansas, in five minute speeches, advocated a graduated income tax.

Mr. Cockran, Democrat, of New York, followed as the especial champion of the Democratic opposition to the income tax. He had hoped that the Democratic party would first redeem its pledges before it began to indulge the vagaries of its members.

Those who opposed this proposal were to be subjected to a new test of loyalty. While willing to vote for the tariff bill, we are now asked at the behest of a party caucus to vote a tax on \$3,000 out of \$7,000,000 of people. When a proposition goes further than mere taxation and is deliberately designed to tax a class, those who believe in equality before the law must array themselves against it.

"It is brought in upon the assumption that the Wilson bill will produce a deficit upon the assumption that the present conditions of business, an unnatural stagnation, will continue. I have said before, and I say now, that if I believed the Wilson bill would produce a deficit in the revenues it would not receive my support. As I oppose discriminations against the poor, as I oppose discriminations against the rich, if you will put an income tax on every woman, child and man in the United States I will support it. You think this is a capital move. You are mistaken. Some of you tell us this tax upon the rich will reverse anarchy. Great beauties do gentlemen understand what that means. Do you not see it means we are about to entrap them in the race for anarchy? Again, they tell us it will increase the interest in politics by taxing \$2,000 and allowing \$6,000,000 to remain untaxed. This is all wrong. The rich will not feel it. Look at the whole history of the world and see the growth of one nation and the decay of another, and everywhere you will find that where institutions have been created that will preserve property, they have grown, prospered and flourished until they ceased to give protection for human industry, and then they decayed and fell.

"When the productive masses bore all the taxes, universal bankruptcy existed until there were no persons from whom taxes could be exacted, no more production, no more industrial growth, then revolution swept the crown and kings away and liberty, bound for ages, struggled to its feet, indifferently lighted the castles of its opponents with the torch it had longed to guide its own steps, until staggering and blinded by the very light it had created, it fell dying into the hands of Bonaparte." [Tremendous applause.]

Mr. Cockran went on in a burst of eloquence to appeal to his Democratic colleagues not to commit this fatal error. He warned them not to throw away New York, the stronghold of Democracy, as some hot-headed members had counseled them to do.

In the course of his speech he referred to a report showing that ninety one per cent of the United States own only about twenty-nine per cent of the wealth, while the remaining nine per cent own seventy-one per cent of the total wealth.

The people of the United States who have small incomes pay on an average more than ten per cent of their incomes to support the federal government, while the rich pay a smaller per cent. Why should not this tax be levied in order that the poorest may be partially enfranchised?

They tell us those who make the least heavier upon those least able to bear it are instituting the burdens of government with impartial hand, but those who have the least effects should pay in proportion to his wealth as pointed out by a judge against the rich. The call for a man to administer whose own taxes to catch the lightest act publications of the pocket-book and demands the dunderhead Ward McAllister, the leader of the New York Club—the man who dares to hint to the heart beat of humanity—who said the other day that the income tax, if imposed, would compel many of the best people of New York to live abroad where living is cheaper.

Bryan of Nebraska followed in a masterly reply to Mr. Cockran.

SENATE PROCEEDINGS.

A Vote on the Election Bill to Be Had on Next Tuesday.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—The Senate has finally named the day when the final vote is to be taken on the bill repealing the federal election law. After another long colloquy between Senators Gray and Chandler the Republicans consented that general de-

VIOLENTLY FOUGHT.

Income Tax Feels Bourke Cockran's Wrath.

Arguments For and Against the Bill Applauded.

MR. WARD M'ALLISTER

Said the Tax Would Drive Wealthy People Abroad.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—Yesterday was the field day in the house. Opponents of the income tax had their chance, Messrs. Covert and Bartlett, of New York, and Johnson, of Ohio, all Democrats, presented their opposition along with the Republicans to the proposition to impose a special tax on wealth. But it remained for Bourke Cockran, the great Tammany orator to eclipse with his eloquence against the measure all speeches he has ever made in congress. Mr. Bryan, of Nebraska, closed the debate for the day in defense of the income tax, and he, too, made an eloquent speech.

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